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YUGOSLAVIA PLANS AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION

DECLAMATION IN CROATIA -- Borba, No 41, 17 Feb 49

An allotment of 1,150,000,000 dinars has been made by the federal government for reclamation projects in Croatia in 1949. This, plus the contribution of the Croatian government, will be spent on a program 12 times as great as in 1948.

The most important project in the federal program will be the reclamation of the Lonja Polje basin. Swamps will be drained and irrigation canals cut. Preparatory work was begun in 1948 and will soon be completed. One fourth of the entire project will be finished during 1949, and 10,000 hectares of land will be made available for cultivation in 1950.

Regulation of the Sava River will be carried on at the same time. Work will be continued on the Zagreb-Sisak-Podsušec ship and reclamation canal. The main canal will be started and work on the lateral canals continued in the Odra Polje. Several buildings and flood-control installations will be built. The canal will drain surplus water from the Odra Polje and provide a transport route between Zagreb and Belgrade. (Previously the Sava has been navigable only as far as Sisak.) Increased production on 30,000 hectares of farmland in the Odra Polje will result.

In Dalmatia, reclamation projects begun in 1945 in the Sinj, Ižotski-Berija, and Polaca Polje, in the Neretva, Nadin, and Vrana Blato marshes, and in other places, will be continued, so that over 24,000 hectares of fertile land will be protected from constant or occasional floods. Favorable weather conditions, drainage, and irrigation should transform many areas of Dalmatia into centers for production of industrial plants, particularly oak. The Neretva Blato and certain other marshy areas are quite suitable for growing rice.

In 1949 the "Melioracija" (Reclamation) enterprise resumed work in the Nadin and Vrana Blato and in the Polaca and Sinj Polje. A lateral tunnel, 1,057 meters long, was cut recently in Nadin Blato. Preparations are in progress for making a cut between Nadin Blato and the Polaca Polje to permit full utilization of 400 hectares of land.

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Reclamation already carried out in Vrana Blato has increased production on 1,500 hectares of farmland. During 1949 a canal will be cut to convey surplus water from the Polaca Polje to Lake Vrana. Since this will increase the amount of water in the lake, work was resumed this winter on enlarging the "Presika" Canal which connects the lake with the ocean.

The Sinj Polje reclamation project, largest in Dalmatia, will be finished by the end of the Five-Year Plan. The right-hand lateral canal is now under construction, and the left-hand one will be started soon. Enlarging the bed of the Cetina River will permit drainage of the Polje and increase the cultivable area of the Sinj Polje from 1,800 to 6,000 hectares. The "Melioracija" enterprise is using four excavators to speed operations there.

Members of the People's Front of Dalmatia have pledged that they will donate 54,000 man-days for reclamation work.

HIGHER YIELDS ON COOPERATIVE FARMS -- Borba, No 40, 16 Feb 49

Many farm workers' cooperatives report greatly increased yields of grain and other crops. The cooperative at Stara Pazova in the Vojvodina, to which the state furnishes machinery and seed, averaged 1,000 kilograms of wheat per jutro in 1948, while unaffiliated farmers in the same district averaged 72 kilograms per jutro. Cooperative members at Pazova harvested 1,250 kilograms of oats per jutro, compared with 900 kilograms per jutro for nonmembers, and 250 metric quintals of sugar beets per jutro, compared with 180 per jutro for nonmembers. Cooperatives in the Vojvodina increased their yields by 10 to 25 percent in 1948. The "Nova Vojvodina" cooperative in Gajdobra averaged 10½ metric quintals of wheat per jutro on its 1,372-jutro farm. The "Janko Cmelik" cooperative at Stara Pazova produced an average of 45 metric quintals of corn and over 11 metric quintals of wheat per jutro. The "Crveni Proleter" cooperative at Kacarevo reported a yield of 467 metric quintals of hemp per jutro.

Macedonian cooperatives exceeded their 1947 sowing plan by 15 percent and their sowing plan for industrial crops by 200 percent. In 1948 they increased their acreage of wheat 120 percent, rye 124 percent, barley 140 percent, and corn 120 percent. A cooperative in the village of Zirojno in Bitolj Srez harvested 1,800 kilograms of wheat per hectare, and another in the village of Prosenikovo harvested 2,000 kilograms of cotton per hectare.

MORE COTTON IN MACEDONIA -- Borba, No 41, 17 Feb 49

Contracts for planting cotton signed by farmers in the vicinity of Fumanovo in Macedonia indicate that 50 percent more cotton will be planted there this year than in 1948. Large yields of good quality cotton were grown there last year. Deep plowing and applications of artificial fertilizer are being conducted in preparation for the new and larger planting.

Over 45,000 kilograms of grain have been distributed so far to cotton growers to assure them a food supply.

MORE COTTON IN DALMATIA -- Borba, No 41, 17 Feb 49

Dalmatian farmers are showing increased interest in raising cotton. Contracts for planting cotton have been signed in all the districts called for under the plan, and in some places for larger plantings than had been anticipated.

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EXPORTS OF MEAT FROM YUGOSLAVIA -- Borba, No 314, 29 Dec 48

The following table shows meat exports from Yugoslavia before and since the war.

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>1935-39</u>	<u>Tonnage Exported</u>	
		<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>
Wheat	193,457	28,994	70,551
Fresh pork	48,305	1,423	1,297
Lard	7,045	0	34
Mutton	101,637 (carcasses)	0	505 (carcasses)
Leads	377,096 "	0	150 "
Poultry	15,411 tons	255	150 tons
Beef and veal	1,312 "	2,430	5,066 "

Yugoslavia will export practically no meat in 1949.

TRACTORS PREPARED FOR SPRING PLANTING -- Borba, No 36, 12 Feb 49

Tractor repair in all farm-machinery stations in the Vojvodina has proceeded more rapidly during the last 10 days. Fifty-three percent of the tractors, 62 percent of the plows, 15 percent of the threshing machines, 25 percent of the binders, and 33 percent of the seeders in the various farm-machinery stations in the Vojvodina have been repaired.

The farm-machinery stations have begun to produce certain repair parts never before made in Yugoslavia. The main machine shop in Zrenjanin has begun serial production of engine heads for Minneapolis tractors.

The plan for tractor repair for farm workers' cooperatives has been fulfilled 71 percent. Privately-owned tractors are repaired in small local shops. The plan for their repair was fulfilled 62 percent in January.

FARM MACHINERY STATIONS -- Borba, No 41, 17 Feb 49

The farm-machinery station at Trebinje, which has exceeded its plan by 75 percent, leads all other stations in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the repair of machinery and tractors. Excellent results also have been achieved by the Livno, Sarajevo, Derventa, Banja Luka, and Bihac stations, while the stations in Prnjavor and in Bosanska Dubica have realized their plans only 23 and 30 percent respectively. Poor results were also shown by the stations at Nova Topola and Modric and by the station on the state farm at Prnjavor.

Better results could have been achieved in many stations by more efficient utilization of skilled workmen, of whom there are very few in any case. Some stations, including the one at Modric, have no chief mechanic. Some stations do not have the equipment necessary for making certain machine parts.

The Administration for Mechanization in Sarajevo recently sent out four instructors to help machinery stations meet their plans. One of their innovations has been a system of mutual aid whereby stations having the necessary equipment will make certain parts, such as connecting rods and pistons, for stations that do not have it.

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COOPERATIVE CONSTRUCTION IN RURAL AREAS -- Narodni List, No 114, 8 Jan 49

During 1948, Croatian farm-workers' cooperatives began to plan a construction program. The plan included the construction of 630 projects, including 117 stables, 113 pigsties, 32 chicken coops, 59 silos, 82 apartment buildings, 21 wells, five sawmills, eight mills, nine lime kilns, etc. The cooperatives also planned to renovate 113 buildings. The government extended to the cooperatives medium and long term credit of 370 million dinars, of which 230 million dinars were for construction.

In 1948, 65 percent of the total project was completed. The best results were attained by the "Dusko Brkic" farm-workers' cooperative in Bistrica, in Slatina Srez, which completed stables for 50 head of cattle and pigsties for 100 hogs.

Good results were also accomplished by the "Kupljenovo" farm-workers' cooperative in Zagreb Srez, which erected three apartment buildings, stables, and pigsties, and is now building a mill and sawmill.

TRAINING FOR WOOD INDUSTRY BEGUN -- Oslobođenje, No 718, 11 Feb 49

Because of increased demand for skilled man power in the Bosnian wood industry, the personnel branch of the Ministry of Forestry has prepared a program of training courses. Separate administrations responsible for the operation of courses in their territory have been formed in the larger centers of the wood industry.

At present over 1,500 students are attending various courses of the Bosnian wood industry; 783 persons are attending white-collar courses and 722 are attending workers' courses. The majority of the courses are given in Lاسica, Sarajevo, Zavidovici, Teslic, Zivinice, Donji Vakuf, Sokoc, Banja Luka, and Drvar.

In the workers' courses, circular-saw operators, horizontal frame-saw operators, machinists, fitters, graders, helpers for horizontal frame-saw operators, foresters, stokers, machine operators, railroad engineers, and operators of motor saws are being trained.

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